



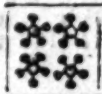
BOOKE OF

Pretty Conceits :

Taken out of Latine, French,
Dutch, and English.

Very merry, and very pleasant,
and good to be read of all such
as doe delight in new and
merry Conceits.

Newly enlarged, corrected and
amended.



LONDON,
Printed by *James Flesher*.



To the Reader.

WHo so is bound for another mans debt
doth bring himselfe in care,
And is compeld to pay the same,
though he be poore and bare.
In every degree love honesty,
be shamefac'd to doe ill,
Ill company see that thou fly,
as members of the Devill.

A word once spoken can returne no more,
but flies away, and oft thy bane doth breed,
A wise man sets a watch before the dore,
and while he may doth frame his words with
(heed.

The Bird in hand we may at will restrain,
but being flown we call her back in vain.

**An easie way to procure Fire
Speedily.**

Take a round Glasse, and fill it with fair water, and set it against the Sunne, so that it may stand fast: then take something which is very dry, and hold it near the Glasse (between the Glasse and the Sun) and it will set the thing to holden on fire, which is very strange to behold, the rather because Fire which is a hot and dry element, is procured out of Water, which is cold and a moist Element.

A speedy remedy for a prick of thorn in ones foot, or else where.

Take the gall of a beast, chaulke scraped, Honey and Aquaviva, of each of them a reasonable quantity, and boile them well together, then make a plaister thereof, and lay it to the place grieved as hot as may be suffered.

Another way to draw out any thorn, stub, or iron in any place whatsoever.

Take the gall of an hog, Beane flower, lavender, and Bacon grease, and mingle these

The Booke of

these well together, and fry them well and lay the same to the place grieved like warm: use it every day till it be come forth and whole.

Another way to draw out a thorn.

Take barke of Hawthorne tree and stamp it well in a mortar with red wine, and seethe them well for a long time, and then take it & lay it plaister-wise to the place grieved, as hot as the Patient may suffer it, and it will take away the swelling and rankling of it, and the thorn will come forth.

To light a Candle at the mouth of an Image painted on the wall.

Take and put some brimstone to the mouth of an Image, and then take a burning candle and blow it out: and before the wick of the candle be cleane out set it to the mouth of the Image and it will burn. So you may doe if you thinke good against glasse.

To take Fish by night.

Take a Lantern of glasse and put a burning candle in it, and set the Lantern on the water, and the fish will come to the light. Or else take Pettles and Honsleeke, and make saice thereof, and put it into a Pond, and all the fishes will gather thither, and if your hands be anointed therewith, you may at your pleasure take them.

To

Pretty Couceits.

To make that no dog shall bark
at you.

Take an hearb that is called Serpentine,
and they shall not bark at you.

To make birds come to your
Culver house.

Cast Barly steeped in Honey where they
doe use to feed, and they will gather to the
Culver-house.

To put an apple into a Viall.

Hang the Viall on the twig of an Apple-
tree and put a young Apple in the mouth of
the Viall, and it will grow therein, and so
you may doe with grapes and other fruit.

To put an Egge into a Viall.

Steep the Egge two dayes and two nights
in vinegar, and roule it on a table softly, and
it will stretch as wax, and then you may put
it into the Viall or draw it through a ring.

To make folk seem black.

Put Oyle Witbe into a lamp, and put
theresin fine powder of ground glasse, and
light it, and all those that be about it will
seem black as Egyptians.

To prove if a Maiden be cleer.

Burne Pother-wort, and let her take the
smoak at her nose, and if she be corrupt she
shall pisse, or else not. Otherwise take gray

The Booke of

**Pettles whilst that they be green, and then
let her pisse on them, and if she be no maiden
they will wither forthwith, or else not.**

To keep Inke from freezing.

**Take Aquavitz and mix it with writing
Ink, and the same will never freeze.**

**To write a Letter with such Inke as cannot
be perceived, unlesse it be holden.**

before the fire.

**Take a sheet of faire white paper, & write
thereon with the juice of a red Onyon well
mixed or tempered with the white of an egge
and then dry it well, and then it cannot be
perceived to be any other then plain white
paper without any writing on it: but if you
hold it betwixt you and the fire, you may the
more easily read it and perfectly perceive the
letters or contents thereof.**

**Another way to write Letters that cannot
be read but in this sort.**

**Take Allom and beat it into fine powder,
and then put it into faire water, and what-
soever you write therewith, neither that
writing nor letters will appear, except you
put the said paper in water, and then you
may read it perfectly.**

To cause a dog to cease barking.

**Take a Doggs tongue and lay it under
your**

your great Toe (within your shoe) and the dog will cease barking as long as you weare the same.

To cause a Pike to follow one.

Take the iuice of Bugwort, and the iuice of red Fennell, of each of them a little quantity, and the crums of Rye bread, and mingle them together with a good quantity of Salarmoniacke, and grind them well together, and scrape a good quantity of Asapherida to them, and then rub your line next the hooke very well therewith.

An easie way to take Eccles.

Take new Hay that is sweet, and make a bottle thereof, and as you make it up shake upon it some new calves blond, with the li-ber shred therein, & so, want of Calves blond take the blood of a Bull, Ore, or Cow, with the li-ber as aforesaid, and then bind up your bottle as hard as you can with some ropes of the same hay, and cast it into a ri-ber or pond where Eccles are, so tye it to a cord to pull it up at your own pleasure again. Note the chieffest time for the taking of Eccles and o-ther running fish, is at the dark of the Moon in the beginning of May, at the Wooting of Oats, and in the Moneth of September and October, when all waters turne white after

The Booke of
a floud : and for want of Hay, take Osters
and seethe them in blood as aforesaid, and
make your purpose therewith.

Another way to take Eccles.

Take a good long wisp of Hay, and make it
hard up, & boile the same well in new Calves
blood, and then put it into the midst of a
bigger trusse of new Hay, the same being
hard made up with the curbled blood, and some
of the liver. Make ten or twelve of the bun-
dles, and lay them neere to the banks side in
the deepest place of the river or pond and put
them a quotts cast asunder, in the dark night
after a drought : and if the weather be some-
what inclined to rain, it will be the better :
and put to your bundles either some Shining
night wormes, or the peeces of some rotten
wood, or the skins of herrings or sprats, or
else some such like shining things, whereby
you may perceiue where to take them up at
your pleasure, as well in the night as in the
day.

To know if a sick person shall die
or not.

Take gray Pettles while they be green,
and put them in the patients urin, and if they
remain greene, he shall live : and if they wi-
ther, not.

To

To make salt water fresh.

Take clay, and put it into a bagge, and strain it throughtill it be clere, and it will be fresh.

To kindle a candle at the Sunne.

Take a bright Bason, and put a new looking glasse therein, and set the Bason in the hottest of the Sunne, and lay about it very dry Towe chopped small, and the Towe will take fire with the heat of the Sunne.

To make a candle that it cannot be blowne out.

Take a quill of Hempe stalke, and fill it full with Bitumone, and make it warme, and fire it and it will never goe sooth with blowing.

To heale the biting of a mad dog.

Take white Pettles, and the innermost thin skin of a great and angry Onyon, with a little running water and honey, & bathe it.

To see by night as by day.

Anoint your eyes with the blood of a bat.

To make flesh cleave to the pot.

Take diwall or Right shade, and stamp it well and put it in the pot with meat, and the meat will cleave together.

To take birds quick.

Take Pease and steep them in wine lees,

nd

and in the juice of hearb Bennet, and Hem-
locke, and then cast them to the birds, and as
many as doe eat thereof will be so amazed
that they cannot fly away.

To take birds.

Put Barly in the juice of Rets and Wine-
ger, and cast it there as the birds doe haunt
or come, and as soon as they have eaten it
they cannot fly, and then you may take them.

To make silk wormes.

Take the brain of a Calfe, and it put into
a pit of Madder, and let it lye three weeks, &
they will breed of the brain, and ye may feed
them with Mulberries and mulbery leaves.

To take away haire.

Anoint the rough place that is shaven with
the blood of a black Otter, and hair shall
never grow there.

To fat Hens and Capons.

Make a deep pit in the earth, and make
therein a bed of Dung, and a bed of Nettles
and doe so till it be full, and there keep your
Pullett till the herbs begin to grow, and
then let them out, and within a short while
they will be very fat.

Certain notes to be observed in
fishing, viz.

In the Spring time of the year when fish
doe

doe giue themselves to the act of generation,
take some of the little kind of fish from
some muddie or filthy poole, into a very large
bow net, whereunto you may draw them by
a small and easie Lampe, made and wrought
in the bottome of a cleane glasse with clay,
and feed it with oyle, but the glasse must be
vented with some device of a Runke of
Swans quills, and you shall see great ranks
of fish gather into the nets: make your stilts
for labouring of the same, if you can get no
strange fish, then tye in the midst of your
net, either some mother of pearl or else some
fair Oyster shell, or for want of them make
a posse of diuerse coloured flowers, and smear
them well with Parmasity, mixt with the
yolk of a new laid Egge, and so use it: but
when you are disposed to make tryall of these
things, let it be in your own pond, whereby
it may be performed at pleasure: this last
receipt will draw a Pickerel into a loton, in
the end of Aprill or May.

An easie way to tak a Pickerel.

Take a Pickerel immediately after the bath
spawnd, then take the whites of 3. or 4. Eggs
and beat them into an Oyle, and put thereon
some Parmasity well bruised, & incorporate
them together as a dough past: & then make

apaste with as many coloured flowers as you can get, and smeare the paste with the aforesaid dough, and hang it in the midst of a botw net, and put the Pickerell into the net also, then hang the net in some clear place in the midst of a Pond or River and so let it remain there all night, and in the morning you shall see the experience thereof.

To take a Pickerell in winter or summer.

Take a greene Hearn in the fall of the Mon, and take the marrow out of the leg, and put it into a Lin box, and when you list to take a Pickerell, bait your hook either with a Roach, Dace, or Gudgeon, and anoint the baite with the same Oyle, and you shall presently speed.

An easie way to take fish with ones hand.

Take Henbane, Wormwood, Herbin, and stamp them all together, and then hang the same in three Canvas bags, and put them in three seuerall places of the Pond, and all the Fish will gather thereunto.

Another way.

Take Housleek and Rettle roots of each of them a good quantitie, and stamp and strain them, and then wash your hands in the juice thereof, and then poure it into the Pond, and then

Pretty Conceits.

then the fish will gather to the same place in such sort as you may take them up at your pleasure with your hands.

Another way.

Take an ounce of Honey, two ounces of Cheese, foure and twenty grains of Oculus Indix, and two penny worth of Caster, stamp all these together in a mortar, and make it in forme of a paste, and make it in small pieces, and then cast them where the fish be and you shall quickly speed.

Another way.

Take a pewter Bason, and let it be made as bright as may be, and hold it toward the water and the fish will come to the brightness of the Bason.

To take Roches.

Take Oculus Indix, Henbane seed, the yolk of an Egge, English Honey, and Wheaten flower, and mingle them all together, and make a paste thereof.

To take Tench both in March and April.

Take small crummes of household bread, moistned with tar, and cast the same into the water where you purpose to fish: then, three nights after bait a large bobo net with toasts of like bread well tarred and tied fast in the midst of the net, & if you can get a byseder or
two

two out of a ranke sofle, and tie in the net,
you should try a rare conclusion.

That one shall not be drunke.

Drinke the iuice of yerrow fasting, and
ye shall not be drunke soz no drinke, and
if you were drunke, it will make you sober: or
else eat the marrow of porke fasting, and ye
shall not be drunke, and if you be drunke a-
noynt your p^rty members in vineger, and
ye shall war sober.

To make a good bate for fish at all
times of the year.

Take wheat flower and tallow of new
flaine sheep, and the glair of an Egge, and
beat them all together, and batte your hooks
therewith.

To make an Egge goe up to a
Speares end.

Empty the Egge at a little hole, and fill it
full of May dew, and stop the hole close with
a little wax & parchment glued, that the dew
goe not out, then stick a speare in the earth
in the heat of the Sun, and lay the Egge, by
the speare, and it will mount up to the top
thereof by the heate of the Sun.

To make a candle burne in the water.

Take Wine, Oyle, Salt W^histone, quick-
silver, Wax and Honey, and put them to-
gether.

Pretty Conceits.

gether and make a Candle thereof, and the same will burn in water.

To make fish or flesh seem raw.

Take the blood of a ~~W~~at or Kid, and dry it and keepe it from the ayre, then cast it on fish, or flesh that is hot, and it will seeme raw.

To make wormes to seem to be in meat.

Take Harpe strings: and cut them in small pieces, and cast them but on meat, and they will stirre like wormes.

To make pottage runne out of the pot.

Take and cast rope in the pot and it will run over.

A good medicine for poultery that have the pip.

Take Rue, and put it into their troughs of water, where the Poultry do use to drinke, and the same will help them presently.

To kill Hens and Ducks.

Cast them the seed of Henbane, and they will fall downe as they were dead.

Make powder of Saint Johns wort, and when that the coales are wasted, and the fire neer out, cast it thereon and it will lie.

That a man shall not be weary of going.

Drink the iuice of Mugwort, and beare the hearb it selfe about you, with the hearbs Pedelton and Crowfoot,

And-

Another way to avoid wearinesse.

Take Mugwort and carry it about you, and you shall not be weary, neither shall there any wicked spirit come neer you having it about you.

A Present remedy to assuage both hunger and thirst.

Take the quantity of a masse nut of Roch Allom (that is both fine and pure) and when you feel either hunger or thirst to oppresse you, put it into your mouth, and suck it for a little space, and use it oftentimes in the day, and it will presently assuage your hunger and thirst; use this as often as need shall require one peny worth of Allom will serve almost a whole week.

To write without Inke.

Take fine white paper, and with the juice of a red Onion, well mixed and tempered with the yolke of an Egge, you may write, which being very drye will shew as though it were onely plain paper, without any writing at all, but if you hold it against the fire, you may then easily read it, and perceive the letters.

Another way to cause writing not to be perceived.

Take powder of Allom, and put it into water

water, and whatsoeuer you write therewith
neither the writing nor the letters will ap-
pear, except you put the same writing in wa-
ter, and then you may read it perfectly.

To keep Inke from freezing.

Take a little Aquavita (some few drops)
and mix it with writing inke and the same
will never freeze at all.

A present remedy to destroy
a Carbuncle.

Take Costander seed, and beat it to pow-
der, and mingle it with Honey, and make
a plaster thereof, and lay it upon the car-
buncle or other grievous boiles, and the same
will speedily destroy them.

A ready and easie way to try whether
a Maid be a pure Virgin or not.

Take rootes of red Pettie and stamp
them small: and mix the juice thereof with
Ale, and let her drinke thereof, and if it doe
remaine with her then she is a maide, other-
wise she is not.

To try if a woman (being with child)
be with childe with a man child
or a woman child.

Take faire well water, and put it into
a cleane Bason, and let the woman with child
milke a drop or two of her milke into the
water

water, and if the milke sinke to the bottome,
it is a man child, and if it float on the top
above the water it is a woman child.

To make yarn and linnen cloth white.

Take a herring barrell, and fill it nigh full
of good Ale dregs, and stop it fast, but you
must have a good dish full of parched beans,
and put them in a linnen bag, and very hot
put them to the dregs till they coole, and
shut it fast the space of a quarter of an houre,
then take two pounds of Allom, ground to
small powder, and cast it thereon, and let it
lie foure dayes naturall well closed, and then
wash your yarne.

To make that a horse may not goe
through a street.

Take the guts of a wolfe, and lay them
overtwart the street, and cover them with
earth or sand, and he will not go that way as
long as the guts covered lie there. Proved.

To take Conies with ones hand.

Take a Coney that is full of young Rab-
bits, and kill her: and put her all whole into
a pottle of oyle Olive, and put thereto some
Asafetida, and so boyle them together from a
pottle to a pint, and then make a paire of
Gloves of Calfe skins fit for your hands,
and tolle the Gloves in the same liqur
with

Pretty Conceits.

With the coney, and let it boyle from a pottle to a pint, and when the globes be well boyled let them be safe kept untill you come where fozze of Coneys are, then put on the globes, and stand on the wind side of the coney berries, and the coneys will come forth to thee.

Another.

Take a quantity of Ivy leaves, and lay them to steep in Aquavita for the space of three or four dates, and then cast the same leaves neer the coney holes.

Another way to catch Moles.

If you will catch Moles or Warts, take Garlick, Leeks, and Onions, and put them in the mouth of the holes, or entrance into the ground where they are, and you shall see them come leaping out of the ground as if they were amazed.

Another way to catch Moles.

Take the quantity of a Butt of Asafetida and two spoonfulls of cummin seed, and beat them together into powder, and make dough with flower of it, then work it well, and make it into balls as big as a pease, and then put them into the Mole holes in every hole. But first scrape away the earth cleane from the holes: and the Moles will come forth of

The Booke of

the earth, therefore watch them well, Also
this in the moneth of March when they
goe a clicketting.

To ripen Nuts.

Take Nuts at Midsummer, and delve them
well in the ground, and cover them well, and
they will be as ripe as those that you shall
gather when they be upon the tree.

To drive away Rats.

Take the hoofe of a Ston'd horse, sliced in
pieces, and put it on a chafing dish of coales,
and the very scent or smell thereof being well
performed, will drive away all the Rats from
the house.

Ad capiendum pisces.

Recipe luce Mullage, vel scolares tortes,
collectum circa medium Maii quando Luna
sit plena, distemperata comminge sape, ser-
va in olla terrea, & quando vis occupare, un-
ge manus tuas eclava sita in aqua, loco, ubi
sunt pisces.

To take Rats.

Take a quick Rat, and put her in a net,
and make a soft fire about it and under it, and
when she feeleth the heat she will cry, and the
Rats that hear her will come to help her, and
then you may take them. And in like manner
you may doe by moles.

To

Pretty Conceits.

To take Moles.

Take a couple of quick Moles, and put them in a deep pot, and set the pot in the earth to the brim, and when they cannot get out, they will peepe, and all the other Moles will come and fall into the pot to them.

To make light for ever.

Take the wormes that wine commonly in the night and gather the liquor of them, and mingle it with a quartern of Quicksilver, and put it in a Glass, and then you shall see all the night long by it.

To put ones hand into any hot seething thing.

Anoynt thy hands with beards Mercury: and put them in a seething-thing, and it will doe thee no harme at all.

To kill Lice.

Make a good fire, and put Quick Silver therein, and hang the cloaths that are troubled with Lice over the fire in the smook, and then assure your selfe no vermine will breed or come in them.

To kill Lice and Nits.

Take the powder or scraping of Harts horne, and let the party that is troubled with them, drinke often thereof, and there will neither Lice nor Nits breed either in his head

or body. Also if you strew the same powder
either upon his head, or on his cloathes, all
the Lice and Nits will presently dye.

An easie way to kill Fleas.

Take the herbe Costander, and seeth it
well in water, and then sprinkle the same
water in your chambers and roomes, and it
will destroy all the Fleas.

Another way.

Take Wormwood and Rue, and stamp
them together, then mingle them well with
good wine, and put them all together in a
linnen cloth, and rub all thy body well with it
before thou goest to bed, and the Fleas will
not come neer thee.

Question.

Question.

Five wives, and five, and five, and fifteen
They all assembled on a green,
And every wife rode on a mare
And another mare their geare bare :
And every mare a filly sole,
And every one of them a double hole.
Now tell me fellow by thy say,
How many lickholes were there that day.

FINIS.
